

CIAP-Project Nominee Fact Sheet

Project Title: Lake Henderson Exotic-Invasive Species Removal

Entity/Individual nominating the project: St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

Contact Information: 1. **Guy Cormier**
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Total CIAP Funds Requested: \$

Requested State Fund: \$

Parish Allocation: \$

Infrastructure Funds Proposed: \$

Description and Location of the Project: Henderson Lake is a 4,000 acre shallow picturesque water body located within the Atchafalaya Basin in south central Louisiana. The lake is one of the premier fishing lakes in the Atchafalaya Basin portion of the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway System (ABFS). The lake is used intensively for recreational and commercial purposes. Interstate 10 crosses Henderson Lake where a major swamp tour industry has developed.

Hydrilla and Water Hyacinth, two of Louisiana's most invasive aquatic plants, have choked the waterways of the lake, causing major water quality and access problems in Lake Henderson. This has led to limited boat traffic and fishing areas in the lake. Hydrilla completely infested the lake over the past decade causing decreased use and economic hardship for service businesses associated with the lake. Attempts to control hydrilla with seasonal draw downs were not successful. These draw downs essentially drained the lake causing tremendous economic loss for the swamp tour industry and other businesses centered there.

- Identifying locations/area of invasive species concentration
- Removal of the invasive species

Project Type: Conservation, restoration, and protection of coastal area, including interior wetlands.

Project Justification:

The objective of this project is to reduce the threat of exotic invasive species in Lake Henderson.

Project Cost Share: State = %
Parish = %



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